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**Provincetown Arson Investigation**

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan, Provincetown Town Manager Sharon Lynn, Provincetown Fire Chief Michael Trovato, Provincetown Police Chief Warren Tobias met yesterday to formally convene a task force that has been looking into a series of intentionally set fires that have plagued Provincetown since last October. The Task Force includes investigators from the Provincetown Police and Fire Departments, state police assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal, agents in the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and members of the Barnstable County Sheriff's Office.

Investigators with experience in catching this type of arsonist know that in all probability, information that comes from the community itself will provide the key to solving the case. The Town Manager will convene a community meeting on Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at 5 p.m. to provide information on the status of the investigation and to discuss community crime watch techniques that can be used against arson. State Fire Marshal Coan and key members of the task force will be in attendance.

Coan said, "The community is the eyes and ears of law enforcement. If anyone hears or sees anything, please call the local police department right away." The Arson Watch Reward Program supports the statewide Arson Hotline – 1-800-682-9229 and will provide rewards of up to \$5000 for information that helps to solve the crime of arson.